

Welcome to the Faith Community of
ST. THOMAS MORE

ROMAN CATHOLIC

UNIVERSITY PARISH & STUDENT CENTER

100 East Stinson Street, Norman OK 73072

(SOUTH OF OU STADIUM ON THE CORNER OF JENKINS AVENUE & STINSON STREET)

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 P.M. (CANCELED DURING OU HOME FOOTBALL GAMES)
SUNDAY MASSES	8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M. (STUDENT-LED MASS)
COMMUNION SERVICE	MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.
DAILY MASSES	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 5:15 P.M. WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M. WEDNESDAY, 9:00 P.M. (STUDENT-LED MASS)
ROSARY	FOLLOWING DAILY MASS & BEFORE THE STUDENT-LED MASS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT
VESPERS	THURSDAYS, 8:30 P.M.
NURSERY	SUNDAY, 8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.

OFFICE INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS (Monday-Friday)	8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
LUNCH HOUR	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
OFFICE CLOSED	HOLY DAYS (CONSULT BULLETIN)
PHONE	(405) 321-0990
FAX	(405) 321-0964
WEB SITE	http://www.stm-ou.org
PRAYER LINE	(405) 447-7055
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHARITIES	(405) 329-5372
BULLETIN DEADLINE	TUESDAY, 12:00 Noon

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES. Classes are available for pre-school through high school youth. Currently, classes are already full. (See notes on Religious Education page of bulletin.)

MASS REQUESTS. To schedule a Mass intention, contact the Parish office.

FUNERALS. Please contact the Parish office to make arrangements with Father Ackerman.

NEWCOMERS. Welcome to St. Thomas More! Please complete a registration form located on the table opposite the Parish office in the Atrium.

MOVING. Please contact the Parish office with your new address.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Ray K. Ackerman • oklarka@yahoo.com • Ext. 204

R.C.I.A.: Director & Deacon: Dr. John D. Pigott • jpigott@ou.edu • Ext. 250

Deacon: Tom Schott • tom.schott@gmail.com • Ext. 300

Religious Education Coordinator: Chelle Breedlove • cbreedlove@stm-ou.org • Ext. 202

Campus Minister: Erin Cleto • ecleto@stm-ou.org • Ext. 205

Music Director: Jan Roberts • mollerorgan@yahoo.com • Ext. 203

Development Director: Debbie Kohls • dkohls@stm-ou.org • Ext. 206

Business Manager: Christy Meiser • crmeiser@yahoo.com • Ext. 212

Secretary & Bulletin Editor: Gloria Olivero • glory@stm-ou.org • Ext. 200

Website Editor: Richard Love • pchelp@normanmusicscene.com

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

"Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God." Why? Because when they encountered Jesus Christ, who "did not regard equality with God something to be grasped," they found in him what they formerly had been looking for in sin. And that is what made it easy for them to leave behind their grasping ways and obey the one who himself became "obedient to the point of death." If someone "turns from wickedness and does what is right and just, he shall surely live, he shall not die." Because it means that that person has found Jesus Christ who is infinitely more attractive than even the most powerful allure of evil.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of St. Thomas More University Parish is to serve the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the Parish and to evangelize the larger community as expressed by our Catholic tradition.

VISION STATEMENT

The desire of our hearts is to be a vibrant sacramental Catholic community that prays, learns, cares, and shares in ways that compel us to witness to the power of the presence of God and to build God's kingdom.

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (PENANCE). Saturdays, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., or by personal appointment. (Canceled during OU home football games)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM. Parents requesting infant baptism must be *active* registered members of the Parish for at least six months and must contact the Parish office to schedule an appointment.

DEFINITION OF ACTIVE PARISHIONER. Must be registered and active in volunteering time, talent, and treasure towards helping to build up God's Kingdom (the Catholic Church suggests that half of the 10% tithe recommended in Sacred Scripture should go toward the workings of the Universal Church, which includes: Parish support, Catholic Charities, Archdiocesan Development Fund, St. Vincent De Paul, Peter's Pence and other special collections).

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK. Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the Parish office. Contact Deacon Tom Schott at tom.schott@gmail.com or our Parish Nurse, Kathy Heiple, at (405) 321-7863, to arrange for visits and/or reception of Holy Communion.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY. Couples must be *active* members registered in the parish for at least six months, and must contact Reverend Ray Ackerman six months prior to the proposed wedding date. All engaged couples are urged to contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944 to register for the *required* Marriage Preparation Course (Pre-Cana or Engagement Encounter).

JOURNEY OF FAITH / RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) is the formation process for educating and initiating adults who either would like to become Catholic, or desire to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches. RCIA sessions are held **Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Overflow room**. For further information, please contact Deacon John Pigott at jpigott@ou.edu.

VOCATIONS TO HOLY ORDERS AND CONSECRATED LIFE. Those who feel called to this life are invited to contact the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations at (405) 721-9351; or Reverend Ray K. Ackerman at the Parish office.

SUNDAY † SEPTEMBER 28 † 26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** † EDWARD SANABRIA by *Maria Sanabria* (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 a.m. **MASS** † FR. JOHN FUTRELL by *Fr. Ray Ackerman* (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes [Grades K-12] (Gather in Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** Intentions of the PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. College Sunday Supper (Knight's White House: 1511 Jenkins Avenue)
- 7:00 p.m. College Bible Study (Red House)

MONDAY † SEPTEMBER 29 † WEEKDAY (*Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, archangels*)

- 7:30 a.m. **COMMUNION SERVICE** (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Men of Honor / Women of Grace (Lounge)

TUESDAY † SEPTEMBER 30 † WEEKDAY (*Jerome, priest, doctor*)

- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Journey of Faith [R.C.I.A.] (Overflow)
- 7:00 p.m. JustMatters (Red House)

WEDNESDAY † OCTOBER 1 † WEEKDAY (*Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor*)

- 7:30 a.m. **NO MASS**: All Saints Catholic School Mass at 8:20 a.m. (*St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Norman*)
- 6:30 p.m. Liturgical Training for College Students (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus (Knight's White House: 1511 Jenkins Avenue)
- 7:00 p.m. College Night (Overflow Room)
- 9:00 p.m. STUDENT-LED **MASS** (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY † OCTOBER 2 † WEEKDAY (*Guardian Angels*)

- 1:00 p.m. Martha & Mary Guild Craft Session (Overflow)
- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** Special Intentions by *Pat Murray & Breakfast Club* (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society (Library)
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Council (Library)
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 p.m. Communion and Liberation (Lounge)
- 8:30 p.m. **VESPERS** (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)
- 9:00 p.m. 4TH Day (Red House)

FIRST FRIDAY † OCTOBER 3 † WEEKDAY

- 7:30 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Farwell Reception for Secretary, GLORIA OLVERO (Atrium)

FIRST SATURDAY † OCTOBER 4 † WEEKDAY (*Francis of Assisi, religious*)

- 10:00 a.m. High School Youth Group Activity Event (Hey Day Fun Family Center)
- 3:00 p.m. **CONFESSIONS** (Reconciliation Room)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** † TED & JOANNA MRODZKA by *Family* (Sanctuary)
Secular Franciscan Profession by MARTHA JONES

SUNDAY † OCTOBER 5 † RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** of Thanksgiving for FR. RAY K. ACKERMAN by *Parishioner* (Sanctuary)
- 9:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes [Grades K-12] (Gather in Sanctuary)
- 10:15 a.m. Confirmation Students Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 a.m. **MASS** of Thanksgiving for DR. JAMES YOCH by *Fr. Ackerman* (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. Student-led **MASS** Intentions of the PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
- 1:00 p.m. Secular Franciscan Meeting & Potluck (Northcliff Gardens: 1301 Northcliff)
- 6:00 p.m. College Sunday Supper (Knight's White House: 1511 Jenkins Avenue)
- 7:00 p.m. College Bible Study (Red House)

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 5, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. Helen & Al Patrick
- 11:00 a.m. Marie & Jay Johnson

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 4 & 5, 2008

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Hannah G., Arianna G., Matthew M.

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Rebecca G., Samantha B., Valerie P.
- 11:00 a.m. Cynthia O., Kelly B., Elizabeth B.
- 5:00 p.m. Maddison B., Morgan B., Susan M.

LECTORS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Tom Burns

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Terry & Bill McNichols
- 11:00 a.m. Christopher K., Mark Krittenbrink
- 5:00 p.m. Tyler Lofgren, Anne Siska

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Stephen & Mary Bonner, Valli Marti, O'Neen Barbour, Louise Kay

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Eleanor Barnes, Stacy Schrank, Gerry Whitman, Barbara Crane, Brigid Brink
- 11:00 a.m. Doris & Jodie Edge, Peter Keupen, Margaret Vennoch, Susan Schott, Becky O'Dea, Dan Lawrence, Deanna Preble, Gail Anderson
- 5:00 p.m. Bill Hersey, Michael DuPont, Rick Lane, Rolando Chapa, José Santiago, Emily Scales, Phillip Smith, David Banowsky, Ben Ballard

USHERS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Corey & Jackie Potvi

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. K. Denton, Jr., Becky Fleming, Drew & Kathy Kershen
- 11:00 a.m. Steve & Susy Galonkey, Paul Buckelew, Jonathan B.
- 5:00 p.m. Bill Huntington, Corey Gill, Noel Brown, David Allbritton

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

In order to alleviate confusion, effective immediately, the bulletin will reflect the MONTHLY Financial Stewardship in view of the fact that Parish Pay withdrawals are made on the fifteenth of each month. All questions or concerns may be directed to our Business Manager, Christy Meiser, at 405.321.0990 Ext. 212.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Charities Appeal. If you haven't already returned your pledge envelope, please drop it in your church basket or mail to Catholic Charities. The Lord reminds us to reach out to the poor, the hungry, the sick, and the lonely. We can share in Christ's work by helping Catholic Charities help others in need. You will be blessed for your financial gift and commitment. *As you do or others, you do for Christ.* Your support is appreciated. For more information about Catholic Charities or the Appeal, visit the website at www.catholiccharitiesok.org.

SPIRITUAL HEALING & ENRICHMENT

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE. *This is a ministry to help cope with the traumatic experiences of losing a loved one through separation, divorce, or death.* Beginning Experience is carried out by a trained team of volunteers done at special weekend gatherings, which encourage participants to share their need and deal with the natural process of grief and loneliness. The next **Beginning Experience Weekend** is scheduled for **October 17-19** at the Catholic Pastoral Center (7501 NW Expressway, OKC). For further information &/or to register, please contact the Office of Family Life at 721.5651 Ext. 108.

ANGER, CONFLICT & FORGIVENESS, Sat., Oct. 18, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., MARIE BALLMANN, OSB. This spiritual approach helps you to identify the unresolved anger and conflicts that affect your relationships. Learn the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation and let go of the pain. Place: Monastery Library of Red Plains Monastery, SW of Piedmont. Call 405.373.0804 to register. Fee: Send in your \$40 to reserve a place. Bring a sack lunch.

THE TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM: HEALING THE MIND, BODY & SPIRIT—A FAITH BASED RESPONSE TO WORKING WITH SURVIVORS OF CHILDHOOD ABUSE AND NEGLECT. Presented by Sharon Froom, MA, LLP and Fr. Ken Schmidt, MA, LPC, NCC, on **Wednesday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 23, 9 a.m.-12 Noon**, at the Catholic Pastoral Center (7501 NW Expressway, OKC, OK 73132). *This workshop would be a great asset for clergy, pastoral associates and others involved in parish ministry and education as well as licensed professionals.* CEUS are available for licensed professionals. The cost is \$75 which includes a training manual (and your right to make copies), certificate of attendance, LPC and LMFT CEU's (10 hrs) have been applied for. For more information or to register call Jennifer Goodrich at 1.405.721.5651. *Sponsored by the Office of Safe Environment and the Office of Family Life.*

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER. *"Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."* Jesus asks us to love Him and one another. The next Worldwide **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** is **October 24-26**. Early registration is recommended to ensure your spot for the weekend. For further information, visit www.meoklahoma.org or call Dan or Jean Forgue at 405.760.0390.

STRUGGLING AFTER ABORTION? Experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat. *This retreat is also appropriate for those who have had a pregnancy loss from infertility treatments, RU486, morning after pill or contraception.* The retreat offers an opportunity to deeply enter into the grieving process and identify the ways your abortion may have affected you. Discussions, spiritual exercises, prayer and reflection are combined with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service honoring your child and a Mass of Resurrection. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and tender compassion. Both men and women are invited to experience this therapy for the soul. The program is an apostolate of the Catholic Church, but those from other faith backgrounds are welcome to attend. **Next retreat: Friday, October 31, 6:00 p.m. to Sunday, November 2 at 4:00 p.m.** Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$75 for materials, lodging and meals. *Financial assistance is available.* Space is limited. Registration must be finalized by October 24. To register or for more information, call Paulette at 405.623.3844 or email okcrachel@yahoo.com or check out www.rachelsvineyard.org.

📖. **What is the content and intent of the hymn from Philippians proclaimed in Sunday's second reading?**

☞. The hymn in Philippians, chapter 2 is usually referred to as the kenotic hymn. Kenotic is Greek for self-emptying, since this well-known hymn speaks of Jesus letting go of divinity, and emptying himself to become human. Paul encourages all to be of the same mind. Jesus' self-emptying becomes a model for all humans to imitate, because this movement addresses humanity's main struggle.

Genesis 3 recounts the outcome of the temptation that all people experience. The serpent tempts Adam and Eve to eat of the fruit because in doing so, they will be like God. The desire of humans to be in charge, in control, and to dominate others by grasping on to power is a strong temptation, difficult to overcome. Paul believes that such a path is ultimately self-destructive, because it violates what God originally created us for, namely communion with God, united with others.

How do we achieve this community that God intended for all humanity? Paul's answer lies in the attitude of Christ. He did not grasp on to divinity but rather let go of it to show us what it means to be fully human. Being human involves the acceptance that we are created by God, conforming ourselves to what God intends and desires of us. This obedience to God's ways is what brings about God's reign.

How is the Philippian hymn a mission statement for your journey to God?

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YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

DON'T MISS THE YOUNG ADULT MASS & COOKOUT WITH ARCHBISHOP BELTRAN (ANYONE 18-39, SINGLE OR MARRIED), scheduled for **TODAY, September 28, from 2:30 to 7:00 PM.** This year's theme is *"Faithful Citizenship."* Join us at the Catholic Pastoral Center (7501 NW Expressway, OKC) in Conference Room 3. For information, call Erin Cleto at 321.0990 Ext. 205; or, the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office at 405.721.9220.

RELIGIOUS VOCATION RETREAT

ATTENTION PRAYERFUL SINGLE MEN! There is a great retreat for men for those considering the monastery as a monk coming up **Oct. 3-10 or Oct. 10-17** at the famous Gethsemani Trappist Abbey. (You can attend just the weekend portion at those times if that suits your schedule better.) Get clarity for your vocation and meet a lot of new friends in Jesus! Please join us. NO charge. Food and room are free! If you wish to take a bus or plane to Louisville, KY. The monks will even pick you up at no charge. Call 1.800.221.1807 for information.

CELEBRATE LIFE

BIRTH CHOICE 16TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF LIFE, Sunday, October 12, at the Myriad Gardens, Downtown Oklahoma City. Featuring: **LifeWalk** through **Bricktown**; Teen Fearless Factor Follies competition; Raffle for 25" LD HDTV/VHS player; Free Moon Walk and Slide; Face Painting and other children's activities; T-shirts; Reminder wristbands; and, music, food and free balloons. For more information, please call Jan O'Neill at 606.8426 or to download a brochure, visit our website: www.watchfortheunborn.org.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

The National Shrine will be hosting a tour of the Holy Land in honor of the Shrine's 60TH Anniversary. *The pilgrimage will be led by STEVE RAY, noted Catholic author and speaker.* He is a certified tour guide and comes highly recommended. They have been to the Holy Land over 50 times in various capacities. Let them be your guide on this spiritually enriching biblical adventure! **FR. SHANE THARP,** rector of the National shrine, will be along to offer reflections and to celebrate the sacraments with you in this land where our Lord walked. The tour takes place **May 8-17, 2009.** The cost for the pilgrimage is \$3,599. There are still plenty of spots available. Information is available through the National Shrine at 405.567.3080 or www.SteveGoes.com.

NURSERY NEWS. The nursery will be open today for all Sunday Masses. Nursery Volunteer applications located in the Parish atrium are still being accepted.

DISMISSAL CLASS. All children ages 3-5 are welcomed to attend the Dismissal class. Father Ackerman will call all children up to the altar for Dismissal. Please enroll your child (ren) for this opportunity by filling out the required Religious Education registration forms located in the atrium on the back table. Classes are approximately 25-minutes in duration. The cost has been reduced to \$15.00 to allow more children to participate. *Scholarships are available.* See Chelle Breedlove after Mass.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES have begun. Currently, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 5th Grade and 7th / 8th Grade R.E. classes are FULL. Registrations can still be accepted, but students wishing to be in these particular classes, will be placed on a waiting list.

PLEASE NOTE: All grade level classes will meet in the Sanctuary (main church) at 09:45 a.m. Students should be seated by 09:45 a.m. We will all pray together, then the catechists will walk your children to their perspective classrooms. Parents should pick up their children at their classrooms no later than 10:50 a.m.

R.E. CLASS LOCATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Kindergarten: Nursery

1st grade: Main room of Apt 1526 (follow sidewalk through the Red House breeze-way, look for the signs on the Apartment windows/doors)

2nd grade: Room 1 (next to Nursery)

3rd grade: North room (Apt 1528)

4th grade: South room (Apt 1526)

5th Grade: North room (Apt 1526)

6th grade: South room (Apt 1528)

7th- 8th grade: Room 2 in Church (one closest to the street)

9th/10th grade (1st year Confirmation Registration Deadline: Oct. 1): Knight's White House

10th/11th grade (2nd Year Confirmation Registration Deadline: Oct. 1): Library

Seniors: STM Courtyard if weather permits. Otherwise, meet in the Overflow room.

RCIC: R. E. Coordinator's Office

PLEASE NOTE: Any volunteer catechist or nursery aide *must* attend a **Safe Environment Seminar** and fill out the required application. **SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING SEMINARS** are held at Saint Thomas More in the **Parish library** on the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** The next one will be held **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21**. R.E. Coordinator will personally assist with the application process to ensure all the requirements for the archdiocese are met and completed in a timely fashion.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES (MARK YOUR CALENDARS!)

- Sunday, 28 Sep 08:** **Crop Walk, 2:00 p.m.**
(Food & Shelter for Friends: 104 W. Comanche).
Community Service Choice for Confirmation candidates 1st & 2nd year students. *Please meet at STM at 1:30 p.m.*
- Saturday, 04 Oct 08:** **High School Youth Group Activity Event, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**
(Hey Day Fun Family Center). Any high school student may sign-up. Please call or e-mail Chelle Breedlove if interested.
- Sunday, 12 Oct 08:** **First Holy Communion Parent Meeting, 10 a.m.** (Sanctuary)
- Saturday, 11 Oct 08:** **Mandatory Training for all High School Catechists, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**
(Catholic Pastoral Center in OKC)
- Saturday, 25 Oct 08:** **Happy Harvest Festival / Pumpkin Olympics, 6:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.**
(STM Church Grounds). All R.E. children and their families are invited. More information to come regarding parent volunteers.
- Sunday, 26 Oct 08:** **First Children's Mass, 11:00 a.m.**
More information to follow regarding which classes will be participating.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is actively involved in overseeing that those who work with youth are formally trained, continue to give updated training, and are provided with means of deepening their own faith. The revised Code of Canon Law states:

"Lay persons who devote themselves to special service in the church are obligated to acquire appropriate formation that is required to fulfill their function properly and to carry it conscientiously, zealously and diligently" (CN 776).

Please contact Chelle Breedlove to review the options that are available for catechetical certification. One of the options are a series of five Youth Faith Formation workshops, held on Saturdays throughout the year from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWS

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The **ASCS Halloween Carnival** will be held **Sunday, October 26 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.** Come and join in the fun!

Final call to purchase personalized pavers for the new gymnasium! Pavers may be purchased to honor or in memory of a loved one. Corporate pavers are welcomed too! Contact Carolyn Schmidt or the school office at 405.447.4600 for more information.

We are nearing completion of our gymnasium campaign. The groundbreaking date will be announced soon! Help us over the top by making your donation today. Log-on to www.allsaintsnorman.org and click on "donate."

DISCOVER SUBIACO ACADEMY

Subiaco Academy, a Catholic boarding/day college preparatory school for grades 8-12, in western Arkansas (east of Ft. Smith) is offering the opportunity for prospective students and parents to visit and experience Subiaco life for a weekend... **FREE!**

Come for **Discovery Weekend, October 31 to November 2, 2008.** For more information and to make your reservation, contact the Academy at **1.800.364.7824** or **admissions@subi.org**.

See us at www.subi.org

REGION 10 CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

"Be Bold, Be Proud, Be Catholic"

November 21-23, 2008

Amarillo, Texas for YOUTH 9TH -12TH GRADE

Cost of the trip is \$210 which includes registration, lodging, transportation by bus, t-shirt, insurance, solidarity fee and most meals. Keynote Speakers include Steve Angrisano and Mike Patin. For more information call the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office at 405.721.9220.

"This is my commandment: love one another" (John 15:12). So simple, so profound, so difficult. If spouses, who chose each other following strong physical and emotional attraction, can fight and contemplate divorce, is it any wonder countries also war with each other? Lovemaking and peacemaking are difficult, aren't they? For daily marriage tips visit: www.ForYourMarriage.org.



PARISH NEWS

ST. THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY PARISH AND STUDENT CENTER IS LOOKING FOR A RECEPTIONIST FOR A BUSY, MULTIFACETED PARISH OFFICE

Duties would include, but are not limited to: answering and routing phone calls, maintaining priest's schedule, editing weekly bulletin, maintenance of sacramental records, providing secretarial support to office staff and maintaining parish's master calendar. This position is full time, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A high school diploma is preferred and applicant *must* have at least one year experience in office setting. The salary base is **\$23,000** and will consider experience. If you are interested in this position, please submit resume to Christy Meiser at crmeiser@yahoo.com. **Application deadline is October 8, 2008.**

The **MARTHA AND MARY'S GUILD** will meet **Thursday, October 2, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Overflow room. We will be making gum trains. Bring glue guns.

SECULAR FRANCISCAN NEWS

To celebrate the life of St. Francis, the Franciscans will have a special meeting with prayer and a potluck at Northcliff Gardens (1301 Northcliff) on **Sunday, October 5, at 1:00 p.m.** All are invited! For further information, please call 405.250.7847.

KNIGHTLY NEWS

Our next regular **Council Business Meeting** is this **Wednesday, Oct. 1st** at the Knights' house. **Rosary @ 7 PM – Meeting @ 7:30.** We are giving up our *"after the meeting light repast"* and will instead attend the **9 PM Student-led Mass** with the Campus Ministry. Most of us will wear a Knight shirt so we won't be mistaken as students.

Football parking volunteers unite and be ready for the next home game, **Oct. 18th** against Kansas. Our Council is fortunate to have such a fundraising opportunity, let's make the most of it! Come and help. Can't help on game day; how about an hour on the Friday evening before; or, on the Sunday morning before the 8:30 Mass? Neither requires a lot of time but just as important to this fundraising project as game day parking. Call SK Sher, 405.360.0007, for Friday roping details and SK McElhoney, 405.360.1768, for cleanup details.

September's Family Bowling was a blast. The team of SK Joe Sher and daughter, Kristen, were the big winners. What would you suggest for an **October Family Fun Event**. Miniature golf? Ice cream social? A cook out? Come on, guys, get your eyes off the NFL and ask your wife and/or kid(s) what they think would be fun.

Plans are underway for our **Council's 25th Anniversary Celebration** in conjunction with this year's Founders Day. Watch for details and plan to attend. Nominations for **Knight of the Year** should be submitted to SK Huntington anytime prior to the Nov. 5th business meeting.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS. Don't forget to mark your calendars for **October 24, 2008**, when we will dance with the stars! *"Some Enchanted Evening: Dancing with the Stars"*, is the theme of our **2008 Gala**, benefiting campus ministry at the University of Oklahoma. Tickets to the gala are **\$65 per person or \$125 per couple**. If you buy your ticket *before* Oct. 1, you will receive 2 hours of ballroom dancing lessons to make you a true dancing star. Campus Ministry is also having a **RAFFLE** as a part of it's gala. For only **\$10 a ticket**, you can purchase the opportunity to win a Sony 32 inch flat screen HDTV along with a 42" wood console to put it in. Purchase your Gala and Raffle tickets after Mass today! For further information, contact Debbie at 405.321.0990 Ext 206. If you can't attend, would you please consider making a donation to Campus Ministry?

OKC THUNDER TICKETS – THE HOTTEST TICKETS IN TOWN. Thunder tickets are hard to get unless you attend this year's Gala. We will auction off tickets at the Gala. The only way you can bid on them is to buy a ticket and to attend the Gala. So buy one after Mass. Come to the Gala on the **October 24th**. Have fun and bid on these great tickets. If you aren't the winning bidder for Thunder tickets, then buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win the 32 inch Sony High Definition television to watch the games at home.

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

There is an old saying that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. Actually, quotes from four hundred years ago are cited as saying that hell itself is paved with good intentions. Perhaps both have an air of truth about them! Nothing is easier than failing to follow through on a promise and then expecting a free pass merely by saying "I intended to do that but just didn't get around to it!" Imagine those words coming from a pilot or a surgeon; in the eyes of God, every promise carries the same weight.

Today's Gospel reading from Matthew is a very short parable of two sons. These boys were the recipients of many gifts, including a loving father, a home, food, and a place to work-their father's vineyard. It was this vineyard and its crop that allowed these boys to have their gifts; yet when their father asked them to work in the vineyard, one said no (but later returned and did the work) and the other said yes (but never followed through on his promise). Such is how we live our lives-some eventually giving thanks for their gifts, others meaning to but never getting around to it.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that we are called upon to make promises to God frequently in our lives; in baptism, weddings, confirmation, holy orders, we make promises (CCC 2101). Just as Jesus Christ promised us everlasting peace in the arms of a loving God, our promise to "work in the vineyard"-to live our lives as a sign of gratitude for our many gifts-must be kept. This is a sign not only of love for God but respect. So too must we keep our promises to each other, because the love and respect we show to others we show to God too. The road to heaven is paved with promises fulfilled!

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28 / Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5 / Mt 21:28-32
Monday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a / Jn 1:47-51
Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23 / Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16 / Lk 9:57-62
Thursday: Jb 19:21-27 / Mt 18:1-5, 10
Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5 / Lk 10:13-16
Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17 / Lk 10:17-24
Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7 / Phil 4:6-9 / Mt 21:33-43

LET US KNOW. Please notify the parish office when a family member is in the hospital or home-bound. Too often we find out about illnesses, crises, and hospitalizations long after they occur. This is a missed opportunity for the telephone calls, pastoral visits, bringing the Holy Eucharist, and praying for them at Mass that we would like to share. Please contact the Parish office if there is a concern in your family or another parish family (with their permission).

REMEMBER IN PRAYER. It is our responsibility in the Lord to remember the sick who are especially close to the Redeemer in their suffering. Listed below are people who have requested our prayerful intercession. *Call our Prayer Line to add or delete someone from the prayer list at 405.447.7055.* If there is an **EMERGENCY**, and you need to reach a priest, please dial **405.321.0990 Ext. 208.**

VISIT THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL AND PRAY FOR... The preservation of the dignity and sanctity of all life; victims and survivors of violence; troubled marriages; vocations (*Mariana Schwartz*); peace; justice; our service men, women and their families (*Colleen Dennison, Matthew Ghigliotti, Luke T. Landis, Michael Scanlon and Clint Wilson*); the hungry; the homeless; the abused; the unemployed; and our youth; **THE SICK...** Fr. Ackerman, Marge Earley, Harold Heiple, Joan Ivester, Susan Lepak, Sharon Poe, Barbara Muir, Patricia Murray, Ignacio & Maria Ruiz, Lisseth Schwartz, Dar Vickers, Sallie Wallace, and Luisa Whitman; **THOSE IN MOURNING...** The Bianco, Farnan, Fisher, Johnson, Okvist, Walsh, and Weimer families; **THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF...** Elvira Bianco, Mary Lee Farnan, the Okvist twins, Patrick Walsh, and Victoria J. Weimer.

*Changing our Minds
and Believing*

I'm thinking of our gentle Savior's boundless love for us: that he took death for himself so that he might give us the life of grace. When our gentle Savior saw that we were straying from the way of charity, his sole desire was to embrace the most shameful death he could have chosen, to restore us to the embrace of charity. Ah! Our Savior saw that we had fallen sick because of our excessive longing for transitory things. But these pass like the wind - either they get away from us or we take leave of them. So I beg you to put your hope decisively in God and not in this mortal life. I beg you, as ransomed servants, to set your desire and your souls' affection intently on your Savior who has ransomed you. As Saint Peter says, "He has ransomed you not with gold or silver but with his own sweet precious blood."

So I beg you to treasure this sweet ransom. Love it, and to show your love, always love and keep God's commandments. Especially do I ask you, beg you in the name of Christ crucified, to keep God's first and ultimate commandment, charity and union with God. I want to see you all fall in love with this charity; I want your souls to be filled with it. Such is my will. If you want to show me this charity, let me see you always bound and united with that charity's gentle chain. Then neither the devil nor anything anyone might say will be able to separate you.

Remember what Jesus Christ said: "those who humble themselves will be exalted"... May God always give you His best grace... Keep living in God's holy and tender love. Gentle Jesus! Jesus love!

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA (+1380), DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH, WAS A DOMINICAN, STIGMATIST, AND PAPAL COUNSELOR.

QUESTION OF THE DAY

Statute of Limitations?

☞. Is there a statute of limitations on the presumptive death of a former spouse in order that the remaining spouse may obtain the Church's blessing on his marriage to a new wife? My pastor has advised me that my marriage in the Church in December 1946 may now be considered over inasmuch as my former wife left me after three years, divorced me in another state, was remarried twice more and then disappeared completely.

My attempts to locate her using several professional personnel locating agencies have been fruitless. She allegedly disappeared in Hawaii and was listed as being in very poor physical health.

This information was related to my pastor, who subsequently advised that, because of the ensuing 50 years of absence, her poor health and the inability to locate her now, I could now consider myself free of my marital obligations with her. A renewal of my new marriage vows then took place during a Sunday Mass.

I am now seeking a more authoritative answer to my dilemma. -*L.R., Savannah, Ga.*

☞. Here's a reply from TCA columnist Father Francis Hoffman, J.C.D.:

No, there is not a statute of limitations on the presumptive death of a spouse. But your case has already been contemplated in Canon 1707 of the Code of Canon Law, which I think is best to copy here in its entirety:

Canon 1707.1: "Whenever the death of a spouse cannot be proven by an authentic ecclesiastical or civil document, the other spouse is not regarded as free from the bond of marriage until the diocesan bishop has issued a declaration that death is presumed."

1707.2: "The diocesan bishop can give the declaration mentioned in [1707.1] only if, after making suitable investigations, he has reached moral certainty concerning the death of the spouse from the depositions of witnesses, from hearsay and from other indications. The mere absence of the spouse, no matter for how long a period, is not sufficient."

1707.3: "In uncertain and involved cases, the bishop is to consult the Apostolic See."

Your local pastor acted with pastoral sensitivity, but he jumped the gun by witnessing the renewal of your new marriage vows without the proper documentation and certification regarding the death of your first spouse.

So now what should you do? Don't panic. You should contact your local bishop and present him with your case. Ask your bishop to issue a declaration that death of your first spouse is presumed. If the bishop thinks your case has merit — and it seems to — he will issue such a declaration, and then you are free to marry.

☞The Catholic Answer

THE HISPANIC
CULTURAL INSTITUTE

The deadline for Registration in the Hispanic Cultural Institute has been extended to [Tuesday, October 7](#). Classes are offered each Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Parish Center of St. Joseph's Catholic Church (321 E. Acres, Norman, OK). The Cultural Presentation by participant scholars is from 7:00 p.m. to 7:50 p.m., and the regular class of Spanish is from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You are welcome to pick up a Registration form at the Parish office, or come to class next Tuesday a few minutes early for Registration. Please include a check with the application form (made payable to St. Joseph's Catholic Church) for the tuition fee: \$25.00 (Fall Semester) or \$50.00 (Fall 2008 and Spring 2009). Thank you for your response. Any questions? Please contact the Parish office (405.321.8080).

See website:

hiculturalinstitute.blogspot.com/ or

E-mail: mariadejp-ruiz@ou.edu or
iruiz4@att.net.

JOURNEY OF FAITH
FALL-SPRING 2008-09

If you are interested in learning more about what being a Catholic is all about, or if you are a baptized adult Catholic who has not received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation, or if you simply desire to investigate the existential meaning of your life, then the St. Thomas More RCIA program is for you!

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is a **JOURNEY OF FAITH** which runs from August 26, 2008 to April 12, 2009 (Easter Vigil) with meetings each Tuesday evening from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** By attending RCIA, you are not committing yourself to baptism or to being received into the Catholic Church, but simply to exploring further your journey with Christ.

If you would like to find out more, please contact me, or better yet, just show up! Our next meeting is [Tuesday evening, September 30, in the Parish Overflow room.](#)